

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Page 4, line 24 to Page 5, line 2:

The apparatus for stapling stacks of paper with different thicknesses comprises an inner base (25), a cutter actuator (~~not numbered~~) (240), a cutter (26), a sliding bracket (27) and a cutting anvil (28).

Page 5, lines 3-9:

The inner base (25) is mounted in the cavity in the base (21) and has a top (not numbered). The cutter actuator (240) is mounted or integrally formed on the proximal end of the lever (24) and comprises two parallel wings (241) and an actuating pin (242). The parallel wings (241) are attached to or formed integrally on the proximal end of the lever (24) and extend into the base (21) and the inner base (25). The actuating pin (242) is attached transversally between the parallel wings (241).

Page 6, lines 1-10:

When the distal end of the lever (24) is pressed down, the driving pin (225) slides into the tangential legs in the L-shaped slots (244) in the staple driver actuator (243). As the driving pin (225) slides into the tangential legs, the actuating pin (242) in the cutter actuator (240) is pivoted around the lever pivot joint (A) and engages the actuating slot (273). As the driving pin (225) slides further into the tangential legs of the L-shaped slots (244), the circular motion of the actuating pin (242) pushes the actuating bracket (27) away from the articulated arms (261). As the distal ends of the articulated arms (261) are drawn away from the proximal ends of the articulated arms (261), the articulated arms (261) are drawn together.

Page 7, line 19 to Page 8, line 9:

With reference to Figs.4, 5 and 7, when the transverse top of the staple (51) abutting the top of the stack of paper (50), the pointed legs of the staple (51) extend into the base (21) through the staple opening (211). When the transverse top of the staple (51) abuts the stack of paper (50),

Serial Number 10/689,045

the driving pin (225) moves out of the horizontal legs into the tangential legs of the L-shaped slot (244). As the driving pin (225) moves further into the tangential legs of the L-shaped slots (244), the actuating pin (242) of the cutter actuator (240) moves toward and engages the actuating slot (273) of the sliding bracket (27). Continuing to press the distal end of the lever (24) causes the actuating pin (242) to draw the sliding bracket (27) out and the articulated arms (261) of the cutter (26) together. The pointed legs of the staple (51) extending through the stack of paper (50) are sheared off to the right length respectively between the side cutting edges (281) of the cutting anvil (28) and the bending templates (29). Meanwhile, the actuating pin (242) slides into the actuating slot (273) in the sliding bracket (27) because of its circular motion caused by the pivoted lever (24).